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Whom The Lord Loveth

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WHOM THE LORD LOVETH

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CONSOLING THOUGHTS FOR EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR

COMPILED BY
HENRIETTE EUGENIE DELAMARE

NEW YORK
P. J. KENEDY & SONS
1919

M. S.
NEW YORK
PUBLIC

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Imprimatur:

✠ PATRICIUS J. HAYES, D.D.
Archiepiscopus Neo-Eboracensis

NEO-EBORACI
die 21, *Octobris* 1919

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BY P · J · KENEDY & SONS
Printed in U. S. A.

TO OUR DEAR MOTHER

AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS I
DEDICATE THIS LITTLE BOOK,
BEGGING HER TO GRANT
THAT IT MAY HELP SOME
POOR SUFFERING HEARTS
AND TEACH THEM TO
OBTAIN THE FULL MERIT
OF THEIR CROSSES BY
UNITING THEM LOV-
INGLY TO THE
SACRIFICE
OF HER
DIVINE
SON

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We desire to thank Messrs. Charles Scribner Sons for permission to use several extracts from Francis Thompson's works; also Messrs. Small, Maynard & Co. for the poems of John B. Tabb, "Resurrection," "My Photograph."

WHOM THE LORD LOVETH

JANUARY

FIRST

OME to me, all you that labor and are heavy burdened, and I will refresh you.

Matt. 11:28

SECOND

O my Lord! How true it is that he who shall render you a service is immediately rewarded by a great cross. And what a priceless reward it is, if they who truly love Thee only knew the value of it at the time.

St. Teresa

THIRD

If we are well with God all is well with us, though the thickest darkness of adversity be round about us. If we

are not well with Him, nothing is well with us, though the best and brightest be at our feet.

Father Faber

FOURTH

The only way to sanctity is the way of suffering.

St. Alphonsus Liguori

FIFTH

Do not fear the Cross. . . . Without it you cannot find Christ. With it you will find the help and consolation of His open Heart. Without Christ the cross is hard, dead, crushing wood. With Christ the Cross is strong as God, sweet as love, tender as a tear.

Father Kane, S.J.

SIXTH

How can I be mistrustful or even anxious? My lots are in Thy Hands.

Mother M. Loyola

SEVENTH

Jesus is the one Friend who alone remains to us when all else forsakes us.

Père Lacordaire, O.P.

EIGHTH

Do not forecast or alarm yourself. Not half the things you look for will ever come to pass and the other half will be light to bear and God will bear both you and your crosses together.

Cardinal Manning

NINTH

As the ring is the sign of marriage so is adversity, both corporal and spiritual, patiently borne for the love of God a most true pledge of Divine election and is like the marriage of the soul with God.

St. Gertrude

TENTH

Help me, oh, my God, and I will not fear how much soever I may be oppressed.

Imitation

ELEVENTH

Thorns give forth balm, and the Cross sweetness, but we must squeeze the thorns and press the Cross to our hearts to make them distil the fragrance which is within them.

Curé d'Ars

TWELFTH

Every sorrow which separates us from this world brings us nearer to God.

Mgr. Henry Bolo

THIRTEENTH

Think often of eternity and remember that the humblest, the poorest, the most despised on earth will be the most glorified in Heaven.

St. John of the Cross

FOURTEENTH

The great characteristic of sanctity is love of suffering, as its peculiar seal is spiritual joy; one produces the other.

Père de Ravignan

FIFTEENTH

As soon as any affliction befalls you, say, "O God! how good you are to help me and enrich me for heaven; I should not like when death comes to be quite without some little merit to offer you."

St. Francis de Sales

SIXTEENTH

The greater is our suffering and the less it is known to others, the more it makes Thee smile, O my God!

Sœur Thérèse

SEVENTEENTH

So tired! so tired!
  A cry of half despair;
Look! at your side —
  And see Who standeth there!

Your Father! Hush!
  A heart beats in His breast
Now rise and rush
  Within His arms — and rest.

Father Ryan

EIGHTEENTH

The more we fear crosses the more reason we have to think we stand in need of them. Let us not therefore be dejected when the hand of God layeth heavy ones upon us.

Fénelon

NINETEENTH

I do not ask, O Lord, that life may be
A pleasant road;
I do not ask that Thou wouldst take from me
Aught of its load.

. . . . . .

I do not ask my cross to understand,
My way to see;
Better in darkness just to feel Thy hand,
And follow Thee.

Adelaide Procter

TWENTIETH

O Jesus! Thou hast suffered so much for me, let me therefore suffer for Thee!

St. Aloysius

TWENTY-FIRST

We should thank God not only for the temporal favors that He vouchsafes to send us, but even for the afflictions and humiliations with which He visits us. We should bless Him, not only when as a Father He fondles us, but also when as a physician He holds to our lips the cup of sorrow and tribulation. We should kiss the hand that strikes, as well as the hand that caresses us; for whether He smiles or caresses, He is always our Father.

Cardinal Gibbons

TWENTY-SECOND

There is nothing to do here but lovingly to endure all that God sends us; blindly to accept in advance all that it may please Him to send in future.

Father Ramière, S.J.

TWENTY-THIRD

What is resignation? It is placing God between ourselves and pain.

Madame Swetchine

TWENTY-FOURTH

Look up towards Christ and stretch yourself out, defenceless, upon the Cross on which He died and on which you must sacrifice yourself with Him.

Père Didon, O.P.

TWENTY-FIFTH

But if doing well, you suffer patiently this is thanksworthy before God. For unto this are you called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving you an example that you should follow His steps.

Saint Peter

TWENTY-SIXTH

One of the things that strikes me is the immense amount of spiritual funds thrown away in the world by people not making good use of the daily trials and worries of this life.

Mother Henrietta Kerr

TWENTY-SEVENTH

My God! I believe so firmly that Thou watchest over all who hope in Thee and

that we can want for nothing when we rely upon Thee in all things, that I am resolved for the future to have no anxieties, and to cast all my cares upon Thee.

Father de la Colombière

TWENTY-EIGHTH

I try my best to carry without much complaining and in a practical way, for my poor soul's sanctification, the long foreseen miseries of the disease, which, after all, is a providential agent to detach the heart from all earthly affection and prompts much the desire of a Christian soul to be united — the sooner the better — with Him who is her only life.

Father Damien (in one of his last letters)

TWENTY-NINTH

Let us never ask of God precisely our own ease by delivery from our tribulation, but pray for his aid and comfort by which ways Himself shall best like.

Blessed Thomas More

THIRTIETH

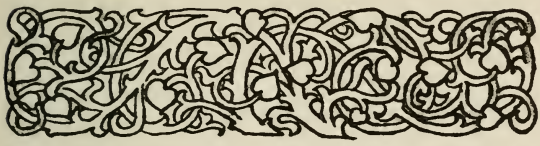
O my Jesus, give me to understand how full of Thy love is every day of my life. How every breath that buffets me, every creature that hurts me, every pang that troubles me, is only a messenger of Thine to make me lift my heart up out of the mists of worldly existence to Thee who art my all.

Bishop Hedley

THIRTY-FIRST

Welcome then Time's threshing pain,
And the furrows where each grain
Like a Samson, blossom shorn
Waits the resurrection morn.

Father Tabb



FEBRUARY

FIRST

ARE not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God. Yea the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore, you are of more value than many sparrows.

Luke 12:6, 7

SECOND

It is God alone that your heart needs. Do not seek for compensation in the affection of creatures.

Venerable Mother Barat

THIRD

Let all thy care be to possess thy soul in peace and tranquillity. Let no accident be to thee a cause of ill humor.

St. Vincent Ferrer

FOURTH

O my God, I know not what must come to me to-day; but I am certain that nothing can happen to me which Thou hast not foreseen, decreed and ordained from all eternity; this is sufficient for me.

Venerable Giuseppe Maria Pignatelli

FIFTH

Patience, abnegation, the ready acceptance of the Cross, are the great lessons the Son of God sets before us. Those who learn them well and imprint them upon their hearts belong to the first class in the school of Jesus Crucified.

St. Vincent de Paul

SIXTH

Death may shatter many joys, many projects, many hopes; it cannot sever the bonds which unite an immortal soul to the souls it loves immortally.

Abbé Perreyve

SEVENTH

Why remain thus sad and inactive? Why wear thyself out in the anguish of sadness? Be brave, arise, do violence to thyself, meditate on the Passion of Christ and thou wilt overcome thy grief.

Blessed Henry Suso

EIGHTH

Nothing matters in this world, except the doing of God's will.

Mgr. Robert Hugh Benson

NINTH

Dearest of Masters! and we go to Him and then and not before and there and not elsewhere we are at rest for His bosom is the weary man's own house, his very own delightful home.

Father Faber

TENTH

Lord Jesus, to Thee I confide my sorrows and I wish to bear them for Thy

sake. My fears I cast into Thy Heart, my anxieties I abandon to Thee. Thou wilt look after them.

Father Xavier Gautrelet, S.J.

ELEVENTH

If you wish to be a disciple of Jesus Christ you must live in suffering for "the servant is not greater than his Master."

Venerable J. Tauler

TWELFTH

Troubles and trials God never allows but with such previous aim and actual ordering as makes them, when we bear them as we ought, bud in joy and ripen into happy harvest.

Father Kane, S.J.

THIRTEENTH

One more sacrifice is asked of us; but does not our Lord prove those He loves so as to make them more worthy

of Himself? A cross is given to us — Let us embrace it generously and thank Him.

Blessed Théophane Vénard

FOURTEENTH

Love Jesus and keep Him for thy friend Who, when all go away will not leave thee or suffer thee to perish in the end.

Imitation

FIFTEENTH

It is not God's way that great blessings should descend without the sacrifice first of great suffering.

Cardinal Newman

SIXTEENTH

We rejoice not only in the hope of the glory of the sons of God, but we glory also in tribulations, knowing that tribulation worketh patience, and patience trial, and trial hope, and hope confoundeth not, for the charity of God is poured forth in our hearts by the Holy Ghost who is given us.

St. Paul, Romans

SEVENTEENTH

"All which I took from thee I did but take,
Not for thy harms,
But just that thou might'st seek it in My arms.
All which thy child's mistake
Fancies as lost, I have stored for thee at home:
Rise, clasp my Hand, and come!"

Francis Thompson

EIGHTEENTH

When we feel us too faint, remember Christ's strength. In our fear, let us remember Christ's painful agony that Himself would (for our comfort) suffer before His passion, to the intent that no fear should make us despair.

Blessed Thomas More

NINETEENTH

What is death? It is but the leap of a child springing into his Father's arms.

Father Tesnieres, SSS., D.D.

TWENTIETH

Learn to suffer and to be silent if you wish to live in peace and to attain to great virtue.

St. John of the Cross

TWENTY-FIRST

As the priest reverently, devoutly, and lovingly gathers up from the paten the tiniest particles of the Host, so should you gather up all the thorns, the trials and the sufferings you meet on your way, to put them in the chalice of love along with the Precious Blood of the Saviour.

Father Brisson

TWENTY-SECOND

The more we complain of our trials the heavier our burden grows; if on the contrary we humbly and lovingly bear them, the burden becomes light and agreeable.

Blessed Egidius of Assisi

TWENTY-THIRD

If God gives you an abundant harvest of trials, it is a sign of the great holiness to which He desires you to attain.

St. Ignatius

TWENTY-FOURTH

Do not look at life's long sorrow;
  See how small each moment's pain;
God will help thee for the morrow
  So each day begin again.

Adelaide Procter

TWENTY-FIFTH

Jesus wishes to take entire possession of your heart; in order to do this He will make you suffer much . . . but then, what joy will flood your soul when you will have arrived at the happy moment of your entrance into Heaven!

Sœur Thérèse

TWENTY-SIXTH

It is a great imperfection to complain unceasingly of little things.

St. Francis de Sales

TWENTY-SEVENTH

Seek not for consolation but for the Cross, seek for work and not for rest, for bitterness rather than joy, for the least and not the most, for the worst and not the best, for poverty and not the possession of anything whatever.

St. John of the Cross

TWENTY-EIGHTH

Internal peace resides, not in the senses but in the will. One keeps it in the midst of the bitterest sorrow so long as one's will remains firm and submissive.

Fénelon

TWENTY-NINTH

The most certain way of obtaining any grace from God is holy indifference and a complete resignation to His most Holy Will.

St. Joseph of Cupertino

M A R C H

FIRST

THEN He saith to them: "My soul is sorrowful even unto death; stay you here and watch with me." And going a little farther He fell upon His face, praying, and saying: "My Father, if it be possible, let this chalice pass from me; nevertheless not as I will, but as Thou wilt."

Matt. 26: 38, 39

SECOND

O my Creator, my eternal love, O my Father, my heavenly Father. Weary yet full of trust, worthless but truly loving Thee, my love and my rest are still in Thy Fidelity.

Father Faber

THIRD

The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart,
And saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
But the Lord delivereth him out of them all.

Psalm xxxiv

FOURTH

The sufferings of this life bear no proportion to the greatness of the glory to come.

Imitation

FIFTH

Trust and you will learn. Learn and you will love. Trust! with the conflict will come the courage. With the difficulty will come the help. With the trial will come the strength. With the temptation will come the grace.

Father Kane, S.J.

SIXTH

Each suffering is a new flower added to the crown which is prepared for us in eternity.

St. Alphonsus Liguori

SEVENTH

Let this dear Jesus be your nearest and dearest friend. Confide your trials to Him. Take everything as coming from His fatherly hand.

Mother Aloysia Hardy

EIGHTH

Courage! Let us be generous in our sacrifices.

Blessed Théophane Vénard

NINTH

Be assured that you have entered into God's service only to be chiselled, polished and perfected each day by the hands of those with whom you live. Look upon them as so many individuals sent to you by God to sanctify you by training you, each one in his own way.

St. John of the Cross

TENTH

Think of the crosses with which Jesus has laden you, for they are treasures which He has drawn from the depths of His riches and you must look upon them as wonderful proofs of His love.

Fénelon

ELEVENTH

It matters little whether we are rich or poor, prosperous or unfortunate in the world, providing we are minting money for Heaven, by the practice of patience, resignation, honesty and the love of God.

Cardinal Vaughan

TWELFTH

Though it may happen that a mother should be so hardened as to forget her own child, yet God promises He will never forget us.

Venerable J. Tauler

THIRTEENTH

Let nothing disturb thee,
Let nothing affright thee;
All things are passing;
God only is changeless.
Patience gains all things.
Who hath God wanteth nothing —
Alone God sufficeth.

St. Teresa

FOURTEENTH

No good can be accomplished save by and with the Cross.

Venerable Mother Barat

FIFTEENTH

O my God be blest when you afflict me. I love to be crushed, consumed, destroyed by Thee. Annihilate me more and more.

General de Sonis

SIXTEENTH

If it happens that something grieves thee, no matter from what quarter it comes, be assured that while you love God, all will turn to your good.

St. Francis de Sales

SEVENTEENTH

Whom God wants to save, to that soul He sends suffering.

Joseph Farrell

EIGHTEENTH

The humiliations of the Cross are sweet to a soul which is sensible of what she owes to Him who was crucified for love of her.

St. Bernard

NINETEENTH

God, give me patience in tribulation and grace in everything to conform my will to Thine, that I may truly say, "Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven."

Blessed Thomas More
(after having been sentenced to death)

TWENTIETH

The best of all prayers is that in which we ask that God's holy will be accomplished both in ourselves and others.

Venerable Louis of Blois

TWENTY-FIRST

The good God tells us that at the last day He will wipe all tears from our eyes; and doubtless the more tears there will be to wipe away, the greater will be our consolation.

Sœur Thérèse

TWENTY-SECOND

Oh how great a grace it is to love and to suffer, to love while suffering and to suffer while loving! Let us never lose one of our crosses, but let us often say to ourselves: Courage! the time of suffering is short, the love that suffering merits is eternal.

Bossuet

TWENTY-THIRD

O my Lord, may I receive in good part the strokes of Thy hand, and may I be content to see that Thou dost not spare

my body from pains, for it is a great mark that Thou hast some good design over me.

St. Lidwina

TWENTY-FOURTH

Divine Redeemer, make me to understand that afflictions here below are as flowers which promise to bear fruits of glory, and that our tears, like sacred oil, consecrate us to immortality.

St. Gregory

TWENTY-FIFTH

As we can sanctify bodily pain by the memory of the nails, so too can we sanctify spiritual pain by the memory of this darkness. (The dereliction of the Cross.)

Mgr. Robert Hugh Benson

TWENTY-SIXTH

The adversities and tribulations of life are special graces, and those most to be desired. God reserves them for His dearest friends. Receive them, then, as such with patience, constancy and joy.

St. Joseph of Cupertino

TWENTY-SEVENTH

What are afflictions, if righteously borne, but the raw material out of which we can weave the royal garment that we shall deserve to wear in heaven at the banquet of the great King.

Cardinal Gibbons

TWENTY-EIGHTH

Being only the servants of Jesus Christ we must not refuse to suffer for our Master what our Master has already suffered for us.

St. Paulina

TWENTY-NINTH

The flame of Divine love never rises higher than when it is fed with the wood of the Cross which the infinite charity of the Saviour uses to consummate His Sacrifice.

St. Ignatius

THIRTIETH

Raise, raise then your heart and your love a little towards the sweet and holy Cross which sweetens all pain.

St. Catherine of Siena

THIRTY-FIRST

Life is a burden; bear it;
Life is a duty, dare it;
Life is a thorn crown; wear it,
  Though it break your heart in twain;
  Though the burden crush you down;
  Close your lips, and hide your pain,
  First the Cross, and then, the Crown.

Father Ryan

A P R I L

FIRST

OD shall wipe away all tears from our eyes, and death shall be no more, nor mourning, nor crying, nor sorrow shall be any more; for the former things are passed away.

Apoc. 21: 4

SECOND

Raise your eyes and contemplate Jesus Christ on the Cross and you will see how trifling are all your sufferings.

St. Teresa

THIRD

But if thou hast recourse to the ever-strong and subsisting Truth, thou shalt not be grieved when a friend departs

or dies. In Me the love of thy friend must stand; and for Me he is to be loved.

Imitation, B. 3, Chap. XLII

FOURTH

Suffering is useful in every way. Suffering teaches us to suffer, suffering teaches us to live, suffering teaches us to die.

Madame Swetchine

FIFTH

O Lord, I return Thee thanks for the pains which I suffer; I pray that Thou add to them a hundred times more if such be Thy holy will. I shall rejoice that Thou art pleased to afflict me, without sparing my carcass here, for what sweeter comfort can I have than that Thy holy will be done.

St. Francis of Assisi

SIXTH

Sufferings are the money with which one buys Heaven.

Blessed Théophane Vénard

SEVENTH

I own that life would be intolerable to me if I had nothing to suffer for Jesus Christ; it is my only comfort in this world.

St. John Francis Regis

EIGHTH

In all that crucifies your will and crosses your heart's desire; in all that against which men chafe and fret, and over which they lose their self control, you, when it befalls you, will say to yourselves: "I will gladly live and die under this Cross, if only I can be made like to the Sacred Heart of Jesus."

Cardinal Manning

NINTH

The Cross assures me of salvation, it is my refuge, my hope, and shall always be the object of my adoration. *O Crux Ave!*

St. Thomas Aquinas

TENTH

For ah! the surest way to God
Is up the lonely stream of tears,
That flow when bending 'neath His rod,
And fill the tide of earthly years.

Father Ryan

ELEVENTH

And now we see proven often, that in sore weather or sickness, by several processions God giveth gracious help. And many a man in his great pain and sickness, by calling upon God, is marvellously made whole.

Blessed Thomas More

TWELFTH

It is certain that no flower can bear fruit unless it dies; so a person will commence to bear fruit in Jesus Christ in proportion as he renounces himself, abandons himself, and dies to himself and to all things.

Venerable John Tauler

THIRTEENTH

When you have looked awhile upon that wide Wound through which burst forth with blood a love, divine as God, yet human as your own heart, I may whisper "Trust."

Father Kane, S.J.

FOURTEENTH

He who has really tasted of the true Cross can taste no bitterer pain, no keener joy.

Cardinal Newman

FIFTEENTH

Our refrain is the hymn of suffering. Jesus offers us a very bitter chalice, let us not draw our lips away from it, but suffer in peace. To suffer in peace it is sufficient to will all that our Lord wills.

Sœur Thérèse

SIXTEENTH

God sends us afflictions for several reasons; first, to increase our merits; second, to preserve in us the grace of

God; third, to punish us for our sins; fourth, to show forth His glory and His other attributes.

St. Anthony of Padua

SEVENTEENTH

Earthly sorrows are the roots of heavenly joys. A cross is a crown begun. Suffering is dearer to the saints than happiness, for the similitude of Christ has passed upon them.

Father Faber

EIGHTEENTH

All can feel the God that smites,
But ah! how few the God that loves!

Francis Thompson

NINETEENTH

I adore all the evils of this life as so many sacraments.

St. Anselm

TWENTIETH

In the narrow way to Heaven one suffers but one hopes, one suffers but one sees Heaven open, one suffers but one

desires to suffer, one loves God and one is beloved by Him.

Fénelon

TWENTY-FIRST

Jesus Saviour of the World spare us; You to whom nothing is impossible save that You should not have compassion on the sorrowful.

St. Gertrude

TWENTY-SECOND

My Lord and My Master, by Thy meekness extinguish the natural disturbance in my breast against those that injure me! By Thy lifting up of Thy Heart teach me how to make use of physical pain! By Thy silence help me to repress murmurs and complainings.

Bishop Hedley

TWENTY-THIRD

I can do all things in Christ who strengtheneth me.

St. Paul, Philip. 9 : 12

TWENTY-FOURTH

Nothing can supply the place of the Cross or do its work. Where it stays long, and is well received, it chastens, strengthens, ennobles. It gives a refinement, a spiritual perception, a depth, a maturity, not found in souls that have come but slightly under its discipline.

Mother M. Loyola

TWENTY-FIFTH

There is no wood more proper to enkindle and feed the fire of divine love than the wood of the Cross.

St. Ignatius Loyola

TWENTY-SIXTH

Indeed, God gives to the Catholic for every joy he renounces a thousandfold more; for every darkness a hundred dawns; for every human relationship that is sacrificed for Christ's sake, a

heavenly, instead; for "lands and houses" the whole earth which is His footstool; for every cross a crown.

Mgr. Robert Hugh Benson

TWENTY-SEVENTH

The time of afflictions and contradictions is the beautiful harvest time, when the soul gathers in the richest benedictions of heaven; one day then is more profitable than six at another time.

St. Francis de Sales

TWENTY-EIGHTH

When the soul seeks its consolation from God, He is always ready to give it to her.

St. John of the Cross

TWENTY-NINTH

Because Jesus was acquainted with grief, because He endured torments — to suffer as He suffered is a veritable joy to the soul filled with His holy love.

Abbé A. Sandreau

THIRTIETH

The Cross is the true and only ladder to Paradise; without the Cross this ascent is quite impossible.

St. Rose of Lima

M A Y

FIRST

WHEN Jesus therefore had seen his mother and the disciple standing whom he loved, he saith to his mother: Woman, behold thy son. After that, he saith to the disciple: Behold thy mother.

John 19 : 26, 27

SECOND

In dangers and afflictions think of Mary, pray to Mary; let her name be ever on thy lips and in thy heart; but to obtain the help of her prayers imitate the example of her life.

St. Bernard

THIRD

Ah, Mary, who comforteth everyone, deign also to comfort me!

St. Alphonsus Liguori

FOURTH

Jesus knows the extent of your immolation. He knows that the suffering of those you love increases your own; but He Himself has suffered this same martyrdom to save our souls. He left His Mother, He saw that Immaculate Virgin standing at the foot of the Cross, her heart transfixed by a sword of sorrow.

Sœur Thérèse

FIFTH

Mary, see my heart is burdened,
  Take, oh take the weight away,
Or help me, that I may not murmur
  If it is a cross you lay
On my weak and trembling heart.

Adelaide Procter

SIXTH

Like Mary we must be loving, sweet and patient with those who cause us any unhappiness, and laying our head with unrestrained and unashamed tears on our Lord's bosom, let us think quietly of God and Heaven.

Father Faber

SEVENTH

O afflicted Virgin! O soul great in virtues as in suffering! O, my Mother, have mercy on me!

St. Alphonsus Liguori

EIGHTH

It is Mary who upholds us in our sufferings; she fights for us and makes us partake of the fruit of her victories.

St. Bonaventure

NINTH

Holy Virgin, in the midst of thy days of glory, do not forget the sorrows of earth. Cast a loving glance on those who are in suffering, who struggle against difficulties and cease not to press their lips to the bitterness of life.

Abbé Perreyve

TENTH

O Mary, harbinger of day! O hope of the pilgrim! lead us still as thou hast led; in the dark night, across the bleak wilderness, guide us on to our Lord Jesus, guide us home.

Cardinal Newman

ELEVENTH

If we would but throw ourselves more upon Mary than we do, with the whole weight of love, with the whole weight of our necessities. She is loving each one of us at this moment with a surprising love. No friend, no parent, no saint, no angel has ever been to us what she has been.

Father Faber

TWELFTH

As much as the sun surpasses in splendor all the planets does Mary surpass in sufferings all the other martyrs.

St. Basil

THIRTEENTH

If the winds of temptation arise, look at your star, invoke Mary; if the greatness of your crimes troubles you, think of Mary.

St. Bernard

FOURTEENTH

O Mother of Sorrows, Queen of martyrs and of sufferings, thou hast so wept for thy Son dead for my salvation; but of

what use will thy tears be to me if I am lost eternally? By the merits of thy sorrows obtain for me true repentance for my sins and a real change of life.

St. Alphonsus Liguori

FIFTEENTH

Understand what must be the joy and glory of Mary in the celestial Home when even in this valley of tears and sojourn of sorrows, the very remembrance of her name makes one taste such sweet joy and pure delight.

St. Bernardine of Siena

SIXTEENTH

The Passion of Mary

Yet Christian sadness is divine
  Even as thy patient sadness was:
The salt tears in our life's dark wine
  Fell in it from the saving Cross.

Bitter the bread of our repast;
  Yet doth a sweet the bitter leaven
Our sorrow in the shadow cast
  Around it by the light of Heaven.

Francis Thompson

SEVENTEENTH

Holy Mary, do not refuse your help to those in sorrow, uphold the courage of the weak and console those who are afflicted: pray for the whole people so that all those who have recourse to thee in their needs may feel the effects of thy all powerful protection.

St. Augustine

EIGHTEENTH

Bear this in mind; it was because of his mother, "being moved with mercy towards her" that Jesus raised the dead man at the gate of Nain. Be careful when you desire any great favor, to implore the intercession of *your mother*, of Mary.

Father Dignam, S.J.

NINETEENTH

O Lady Mary, thy bright crown
  Is no mere crown of majesty;
For with the reflex of His own
  Resplendent thorns Christ circled thee.

Francis Thompson

TWENTIETH

O blessed confidence! O safe refuge! The Mother of God is our Mother; the Mother of Him in whom we hope, and whom alone we fear, is our Mother; the Mother of Him, who alone can save or destroy is our Mother. *St. Anselm*

TWENTY-FIRST

O my sovereign Mistress who hath received such cruel wounds upon Calvary, wound our hearts, renew in them thy dolorous Passion and that of thy divine Son, unite our hearts to thy wounded heart that they may participate in the same wounds. *St. Bonaventure*

TWENTY-SECOND

Most holy Mary, My Lady . . . all my hope and consolation, all my trials and miseries, my life and the end of my life I commit to thee, that through thy most holy intercession and by thy merits all my actions may be directed and ordered according to thy will and that of thy divine Son. *St. Aloysius*

TWENTY-THIRD

Though Mother of God and Queen of Heaven, she remembers that she is my Mother, and thinks it the simplest thing in the world to succour me in my need.

Mother M. Loyola

TWENTY-FOURTH

Sweet blessed beads! I would not part
With one of you for richest gem

. . . . . .

For many and many a time in grief
My weary fingers wandered round
Thy circled chain, and always found
In some Hail Mary, sweet relief.

Father Ryan

TWENTY-FIFTH

It is certainly Mary who after Jesus has more solicitude, more tenderness, more charity, more love and more goodness for us than any other. It is she who upholds us in our troubles! she fights for us and afterwards makes us enjoy the fruit of her victories.

St. Bonaventure

TWENTY-SIXTH

Ask for great favors and for all graces in the name of Christ's Mother; remind Our Lord of her agony, when, her soul pierced with a sword of sorrow, she stood at the foot of the cross. *Father Dignam, S.J.*

TWENTY-SEVENTH

O my beloved Jesus! O Mary, my beloved Lady! give me the grace to suffer and to die for love of you.

St. Alphonsus Liguori

TWENTY-EIGHTH

The Queen of Virgins is Mother of Mercy also and comfortress of the afflicted and though her whole life was a hidden life . . . she knew how to wed action to contemplation and displayed no impotent or sterile sympathy for even the temporal wants of her brethren — going in haste over the mountains of Judea to help the mother of the Precursor, and whispering to her Divine Son at the marriage feast "They have no wine."

Father Russell, S.J.

TWENTY-NINTH

Therefore O tender Lady, Queen Mary,
Thou gentleness that dost enmoss and drape
The Cross's rigorous austerity,
Wipe thou the blood from wounds that needs must gape.

Francis Thompson

THIRTIETH

Most holy Virgin obtain for me the grace of invoking the name of thy Son Jesus in all my necessities, together with thine own, my Mother Mary; but let me invoke them always with confidence and love.

St. Alphonsus Liguori

THIRTY-FIRST

His compassion restored to the widow of Naim the son for whom she wept. Who can tell if Jesus, seeing this woman in tears, did not think of His own mother, likewise a widow, who was to become the Queen of Martyrs for weeping over the death of the most adorable of Sons.

Mgr. Henry Bolo

J U N E

FIRST

TAKE up my yoke upon you, and learn of me, because I am meek and humble of heart: and you shall find rest in your souls. For my yoke is sweet, and my burden light.

Matt. 11 : 29, 30

SECOND

In all your sufferings unite your heart to the Heart of Jesus Crucified.

Blessed Margaret Mary

THIRD

We who murmur and repine and fret all day long if anything goes against us, call ourselves disciples of the Sacred Heart, and yet we have not the will to bear the Cross, much less to love it.

Cardinal Manning

FOURTH

One can never have too great a confidence in God who is so powerful and so merciful. One can obtain all one hopes from Him.

Sœur Thérèse

FIFTH

Even though pain or trial or the loss of those you love appears to circle you with night and tempest, His Heart's love watches and waits and will bring you in God's own way and in God's own time a great calm.

Father Kane, S.J.

SIXTH

My Jesus! may I die for love of Thee, who didst vouchsafe to die for love of me.

St. Francis of Assisi

SEVENTH

The oftener we have given up our own will during the day, the nearer we are in the evening to the Heart of Jesus.

Venerable Mother Barat

EIGHTH

True abandonment which makes God look upon us with love, consists in leaving the past to His ever merciful justice, and in confiding the future to His fatherly Providence.

Father Surin, S.J.

NINTH

If we would give full pleasure to the Heart of God, we must endeavor to conform ourselves to His divine will, and not only conform ourselves but make ourselves one with His appointments.

St. Alphonsus Liguori

TENTH

Let us draw from our Crosses, fountains of love, comfort and confidence.

Fénelon

ELEVENTH

When any pain, affliction or mortification shall befall you, say to yourself: "Take what the Sacred Heart sends thee to unite thee to Himself" and endeavor specially to preserve that peace of heart

which is worth more than all imaginable treasures and which is preserved by having no longer any will of your own.

Blessed Margaret Mary

TWELFTH

But they that love Jesus for Jesus' sake and not for any comfort of their own, bless Him no less in tribulation and anguish of heart than in the greatest consolation.

Imitation, B. 2, Chap. XI

THIRTEENTH

Blessed is he who suffers temptation for when he shall have borne this trial he shall receive the crown of life.

St. James

FOURTEENTH

Lord, take my pain, my willing acceptance of the Cross that weighs upon me now, as proof of my love. By the tenderness of Thy Heart, by thy tears over the

grave of Lazarus, draw me closer to Thee by this trial and by every trial of my life.

Mother M. Loyola

FIFTEENTH

One thing alone I know, — that according to our need, so will be our strength. . . . We shall not be left orphans; we shall have within us the strength the Paraclete promised to the Church and to every member of it.

Cardinal Newman

SIXTEENTH

God sendeth us also such tribulation sometimes, because His pleasure is to have us pray unto Him for help.

Blessed Thomas More

SEVENTEENTH

Now at this very moment He loves us both with the infinite pity of His Godhead and with the kind sympathy of His human Heart. . . . He has a human

Heart, for He wept. It is the Heart which His Virgin Mother gave to Him, and which He hath given to us to be our help, our consolation and our love.

Father Kane, S.J.

EIGHTEENTH

Beg for the courage in prayer which our agonizing Saviour merited for you in His sufferings in Gethsemane and upon Calvary. Pray, for prayer is the strength that saves, the courage which perseveres, the mystic bridge cast over the abyss which joins the soul with God.

Father Ravignan, S.J.

NINETEENTH

Within Thy Saviour's Heart
  Place all thy care,
And learn, O weary soul,
  Thy rest is there.

Adelaide Procter

TWENTIETH

We are told that Jesus wept at the tomb of Lazarus. Jesus wept to show that He had not only a divine Personality, but

also a human Heart, full of human sympathy for the suffering and sorrowing, that He came to sanctify sorrow and to be the great consoler of the disconsolate.

Cardinal Gibbons

TWENTY-FIRST

There is nothing sweeter than to love God, but the greatest sign of love is to suffer for what one loves: to suffer for God is therefore true joy, it is supreme felicity.

St. Ignatius

TWENTY-SECOND

The more consolation from creatures the less from God. This is the invariable rule. God is shy. He loves to come to lonely hearts which other loves do not fill. This is why bereaved hearts, outraged hearts, hearts misunderstood, hearts that have broken with kith and kin, and natal place, and the grave of father and mother, are the hearts of His predilection.

Father Faber

TWENTY-THIRD

A cross loved is only half a cross because love sweetens everything. Happy the soul that suffers much and suffers in the proper spirit.

Father de Leben, S.J.

TWENTY-FOURTH

But if you partake of the sufferings of Christ, rejoice that when His glory shall be revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.

St. Peter

TWENTY-FIFTH

You will find in the Sacred Heart of Jesus the remedy for your evils, strength in weakness and a refuge in all your necessities.

Blessed Margaret Mary

TWENTY-SIXTH

So long as one willingly accepts the evil one suffers it is no longer an evil.

Fénelon

TWENTY-SEVENTH

Look upon the Cross. . . . There is yet time to place the present under the shadow of our Saviour's outstretched arms of mercy, under the shelter of His Sacred Heart.

Father Kane, S.J.

TWENTY-EIGHTH

Look upon the Cross and learn to love the Friend who loved you first, for He loved you from eternity and who loved you most for He loved you unto the Cross.

Father Kane, S.J.

TWENTY-NINTH

Be glad, sad heart! 'tis well;
He made and He keeps love's promise,
With thee, all days to dwell.

. . . . . .

For the Heart that bled on Calvary
Still beats in the holy place.

Father Ryan

THIRTIETH

So, little by little, as we go through life, following with a hundred infidelities and a thousand blunders, with open defiance and secret sins, yet following as Peter followed through the glare of the High Priest's fire, to the gloom of penitence where Christ's eyes could shine — as we go, blinded by our sorrow, to the ecstacy of His joy . . . little by little we find that there is no garden in which He does not walk, no door that can shut Him out, no country road where our hearts cannot burn in His company.

Mgr. Robert Hugh Benson

J U L Y

FIRST

AND rising up, he rebuked the wind, and said to the sea: Peace, be still. And the wind ceased: and there was made a great calm. And he said to them: Why are you fearful? Have you not faith yet?

Mark 4: 39–40

SECOND

Let us love our crosses; seen with the eyes of love, they are all of gold and though our Lord is dead there in the midst of nails and thorns, there is found in the cross a collection of precious pearls that will compose our crown of glory, if we courageously carry our crown of thorns.

St. Francis de Sales

THIRD

What one must put as a star above one's life, is duty, the perfecting of one's soul. What does it matter if one suffers, so long as one does good? What does it matter if one is drowned in a deluge of tears if only one advances in virtue? What does death itself matter, so long as one loves God and dwells in Him?

Père Didon, O.P.

FOURTH

Learn to suffer something for Jesus Christ without letting others perceive it.

St. Teresa

FIFTH

It is with our Saviour that we are nailed to the Cross and it is He who nails us to it by His grace.

Fénelon

SIXTH

As human love turns joy into pain and suffers in the midst of ecstasy, so Divine love turns pain into joy and exults and reigns upon the Cross.

Mgr. Robert Hugh Benson

SEVENTH

Jesus is gone before thee, carrying His cross, and He died for thee upon the Cross, that thou mayest also bear thy cross, and love to die on the Cross. Because if thou die with Him, thou shalt also live with Him; and if thou art His companion in suffering, thou shalt also partake in His glory.

Imitation, B. 2, Ch. XII

EIGHTH

Believe it with a firm faith, nothing in this world unites us more closely to God than that which detaches us from ourselves.

Father de Ponlevoy, S.J.

NINTH

Wish for nothing else here below but new humiliations and sufferings as rewards for your good deeds and hard work.

St. John of the Cross

TENTH

Nothing is done, nothing happens either in the material or the moral world, which God has not foreseen from all eternity, which He has not willed, or at least permitted.

Father Henry Ramière, S.J.

ELEVENTH

He who bears troubles with patience for God's sake will soon arrive to great perfection; he will be master of this world and will have one foot in the other.

Blessed Egidius of Assisi

TWELFTH

Do not fear to look upon the Cross. It is the Shadow of God's love which brings us sweetness through its sadness.

Father Kane, S.J.

THIRTEENTH

Hope not to enter into an intimate union with the God of sanctity, without first being sanctified by the Cross.

Père Olier

FOURTEENTH

But there is God
  Every-everywhere
Beneath His rod
  Kneel thee adown in prayer.

For grief is God's own kiss
  Upon a soul.
Look up! the Sun of bliss
  Will shine where storm clouds roll!

Father Ryan

FIFTEENTH

Sorrow and suffering are found everywhere, they are the daily bread of each of us. Happy those who know how to turn them to advantage. Such souls will be amply recompensed hereafter.

Blessed Théophane Vénard

SIXTEENTH

O Jesus how sweet is Thy hand even when You try me most! Let me be crucified, but crucified by Thee!

General de Sonis

SEVENTEENTH

We are here to suffer and the pain of the Cross must find us somewhere. People are so blind that they think suffering an evil and do not know its real and eternal value.

Cardinal Vaughan

EIGHTEENTH

It is the Cross that develops all the possibilities of human nature. But wherever it is present, God is there, watching to see that its pressure is neither too heavy nor too prolonged.

Mother M. Loyola

NINETEENTH

We are God's own creatures and God is our own God. All else will fail us but He never will. All is love with Him, love in light and love in darkness, love always and everywhere.

Father Faber

TWENTIETH

The privilege of suffering is perhaps the only advantage we have above the

angels. They may indeed be the companions of Our Lord, but they cannot be the companions of His death.

Bossuet

TWENTY-FIRST

We have but one thing to do here below; it is to throw to Jesus the flowers of little sacrifices and win Him by caresses.

Sœur Thérèse

TWENTY-SECOND

O to love! to go! to die to one's self! to reach God!

St. Augustine

TWENTY-THIRD

We must be kind towards suffering; it is a faithful and devoted friend that brings us true blessings; it gives us solid virtue, which detaches us from everything.

Père de Ravignan, S.J.

TWENTY-FOURTH

I try to make slowly my way of the Cross, and hope to be soon on the top of my Golgotha.

Father Damien

TWENTY-FIFTH

This is God's goodness that because in wealth we remember Him not but forget to pray to him, sendeth us sorrow and sickness to force us to draw towards Him, and compelleth us to call upon Him and pray for release of our pain.

Blessed Thomas More

TWENTY-SIXTH

Sorrow and sanctity are two sisters; tears and divine grace flow together from the same source and mingle their waters in a common stream.

Abbé Henry Bolo

TWENTY-SEVENTH

If we knew the precious treasure which is hidden in our infirmities, we would receive them with the same joy that we

receive the greatest benefits, and we would bear them without complaining.

St. Vincent de Paul

TWENTY-EIGHTH

The Cross can take the place of everything and nothing can take its place. He who suffers with patience has no need of any other means of salvation.

Father Engelvin, Franciscan

TWENTY-NINTH

If the most ignorant men know the burdens that their poor horses or asses are able to carry and do not put on too heavy a load for fear of overpowering them, we cannot possibly have reflected, or we should not dare to say, that God Who is wisdom itself, and Who loves us with an infinite love, lays upon our shoulders a weight that is too heavy, or leaves us too long in the fire of tribulations.

St. Ephrem

THIRTIETH

O my God! I adore thy incomprehensible and eternal designs, to which I submit with all my heart; I desire, I accept them all, and unite my sacrifice to that of Jesus Christ my divine Saviour.

Venerable Father Pignatelli

THIRTY-FIRST

Lead kindly light, amid the encircling gloom, lead Thou me on!
The night is dark and I am far from home,
Lead Thou me on!

. . . . . .

So long Thy power hath blest me, sure it still will lead me on,
O'er moor and fen, o'er crag and torrent, till
The night is gone;
And with the morn those angel faces smile
Which I have loved long since, and lost awhile.

Cardinal Newman

A U G U S T

FIRST

E not therefore solicitous for tomorrow: for the morrow will be solicitous for itself. Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof.

Matt. 6:34

SECOND

Be patient in tribulation, fervent in prayer and fearless in labor.

St. Francis of Assisi

THIRD

Henceforth nothing can give me fear, neither wind or rain; and if great clouds hide from me the Light of Love, then will be the time of perfect joy, the time in which to push my confidence to its extreme limits . . . knowing that beyond

those clouds of sorrow my sweetest Sun is shining still.

Sœur Thérèse

FOURTH

What we suffer should be our own secret, this silence is pleasing to the Heart of Jesus.

Venerable Mother Barat

FIFTH

O surpassing loving kindness! Christ received the nails in His undefiled Hands and Feet, and endured anguish; while to me, without suffering or toil, by the fellowship of His pain, He vouchsafes salvation.

St. Cyril

SIXTH

"Greater love than this no man hath, that a man lay down his life for a friend." This was the Baptist's privilege. Let it be ours to suffer readily and cheerfully the trials incident to the daily faithful service of the Master.

Father J. H. O'Rourke, S.J.

SEVENTH

Do not look forward to the occurrences of this life with fear, but accept them with perfect confidence that, as they happen, God will perfect and deliver you.

St. Francis de Sales

EIGHTH

Drive away sadness far from thee; for sadness hath killed many and there is no profit in it.

Eccles. 30 : 24, 25

NINTH

Sorrow is life with an honest face. It is life looking what it is. Nevertheless there is the truest, the heavenliest of all joys in sorrow, because it detaches us from the world and draws us with such quiet, persuasive, irresistible authority to God.

Father Faber

TENTH

If we courageously face sufferings, difficulties vanish and even pain becomes delightful.

St. Teresa

ELEVENTH

I never understood so well before the importance of seizing hold of all the little occasions one has for suffering, as of precious coin to be found only on this side of the grave, and with which one can buy such treasures for hereafter.

Mother Henrietta Kerr

TWELFTH

How unhappy would I be, if I were not to suffer with Christ, since I am here below only to be purified by the Cross!

Father de Leben, S.J.

THIRTEENTH

God has pledged Himself to grant us not temporal but spiritual goods, goods necessary or conducive to our salvation; and when we see that God does not give them (the temporal favors) let us rest assured that He refuses them only because He loves us, and because He sees

that what we ask would, if He were to give them to us, redound to our spiritual injury.

St. Alphonsus Liguori

FOURTEENTH

My Lord and my Master! by Thy ardent love of Thy Heavenly Father, enable me to understand how affliction may intensify my love of God.

Bishop Hedley

FIFTEENTH

One must never consider whence crosses come; they come from God.

Curé d'Ars

SIXTEENTH

Love suffers and is resigned and the thoughts of Heaven grow more vivid as we get more detached from all on earth. Only a little more trust! A little more confidence in God! A little more patience and the end will come and the past weary years will seem as nothing.

Blessed Théophane Vénard

SEVENTEENTH

Nothing short of suffering, except in rare cases, makes us what we should be. And we may be quite sure that unless we chasten ourselves, God will chasten us.

Cardinal Newman

EIGHTEENTH

"Fear not" says Jesus to the timid, doubtful soul. "It is I, thy Saviour; I, thy light and thy salvation. Whom then canst thou fear? I am the protector of thy life. Of whom shalt thou be afraid? I am with thee. Fear not, it is I."

Mgr. de la Bouillérie

NINETEENTH

In God's present providence the real worth and the real beauty of life only reach their full freshness and fruitfulness when they have been sown in tears.

Father Kane, S.J.

TWENTIETH

For as God did more for poor Lazarus in helping him to die for hunger at the rich man's door, than if He had brought

him to the door all the rich man's dinner; so, though He be gracious to a man whom He delivereth out of painful trouble, yet doth He much more for a man if, through right painful death He deliver him from this wretched world into eternal bliss.

Blessed Thomas More

TWENTY-FIRST

With Christ death is harmonious and continuous with all that has gone before, since it is the final movement of a life that is already dead with Christ, the last stage of a process of mortality and the stage that ends its pain.

Mgr. Robert Hugh Benson

TWENTY-SECOND

Virtue and strength of soul grow and perfect themselves in ignominies, sufferings, affronts, sickness and even the dryness of soul which renders prayer bitter and painful. This is why you must not fear them, but love them with

courage as none of them can fail to bring us nearer to God.

St. John of the Cross

TWENTY-THIRD

O Lord my God, give me the unclouded faith that sees Thee and Thee alone in all that befalls me — in all events, in all joys and sorrows; in health and in sickness; in evil report and good report; in accidents, in disappointments, in weariness, in consolation, in interior trials.

Mother M. Loyola

TWENTY-FOURTH

Our Lord Jesus Christ himself was not one hour of His life without suffering . . . and dost thou pretend to seek another way than this royal way, which is the way of the Holy Cross?

Imitation, B. 2, Chap. XII

TWENTY-FIFTH

Woe to him who in the calmness of his heart can wish to die so long as he has

a sacrifice to make, a happiness to procure, needs to care for or tears to wipe away.

Madame Swetchine

TWENTY-SIXTH

The Lord is my Shepherd and I shall want nothing. Though I should walk in the midst of the shadow of death, I will fear no evils; for Thou, O Lord, art with me; and Thy mercy will follow me all the days of my life.

Psalm 23

TWENTY-SEVENTH

All the pleasures of the world, all the honey that can be gathered from the flowers of earth, are nothing in comparison with the sweetness which is caused by the gall and vinegar offered to Jesus Christ, that is, the hard and painful things endured for Jesus Christ and with Jesus Christ.

St. Ignatius

TWENTY-EIGHTH

Why should we repine at the tribulations we now endure in the battlefield of life, since they are the raw material of

future glory? And why should we murmur that we are not rewarded here? It is better to wait till the warfare of life is over, when our fellow citizens will greet us in our future home and the great King will give us an unfading crown.

Cardinal Gibbons

TWENTY-NINTH

We cannot quit the Cross without leaving Jesus Christ crucified. He and the Cross are inseparable.

Fénelon

THIRTIETH

Hardest servitude has he
That's jailed in arrogant liberty;
And freedom, spacious and unflawed,
Who is walled about with God.

Francis Thompson

THIRTY-FIRST

It is by getting into the habit of bearing the little troubles, daily difficulties and numberless thorns of life that we will become capable of true courage on grand occasions.

Duchesne de Saint Léger

SEPTEMBER

FIRST

BLESSED are they who suffer persecution for justice's sake for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when men shall revile and persecute you and say all that evil against you untruly, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: because your reward is very great in Heaven.

Matt. 5: 10, 11, 12

SECOND

The same God sanctified both Thabor and Calvary to make us understand the mysterious union that exists between ignominy and glory; they ought to be the same to us. We should remember that in consolation or temptation, God is ever the same being in our regard;

He is always a Saviour, always great, always powerful, always turned towards us with infinite love.

Père de Ravignan

THIRD

Whom the Lord loveth He chastiseth. God dealeth with you as with His sons: for what son is there, whom the father does not correct?

St. Paul

FOURTH

If we are in affliction, let us invoke Jesus, and He will console us. If we are tempted, let us invoke Jesus and He will give us strength to withstand all our enemies. If, lastly, we are in aridity and are cold in divine love, let us invoke Jesus and He will inflame our hearts.

St. Alphonsus Liguori

FIFTH

Mourning in the order of Providence is a call to holiness. Broken hearts are

prepared to receive God, just as hearts who receive God, being too small, must break.

Mgr. Henry Bolo

SIXTH

It was after the Christ had wept over Jerusalem that He uttered some of His most august words; it was when His soul had been sorrowful unto death that His enemies fell prostrate before His voice. Who suffers conquers.

Francis Thompson

SEVENTH

Rejoice often in the Lord your salvation and remember that it is profitable to suffer with resignation all the trials of life for a God who has suffered so much for us, and with so much love.

St. John of the Cross

EIGHTH

As the flowers grow among thorns, so divine love increases better in the midst of tribulation than in the midst of comfort.

St. Francis de Sales

NINTH

Do thine own pleasure. Surely, Lord,
  Thou art full free to come and go,
To lift my sorrow by a word
Or pierce me with a sudden sword,
  And leave me sobbing in my woe.

Mgr. Robert Hugh Benson

TENTH

The Cross is my sure salvation. The Cross I ever adore. The Cross of my Lord is with me. The Cross is my refuge.

St. Thomas Aquinas

ELEVENTH

Life has many bitter, sad and weary hours, often it can scarcely be called existence. The little rivulets as well as the great rivers, all empty themselves into one source — the sea. God is an ocean of love and mercy. In Him alone is the fulness of joy. Patience and courage then! A little while and we shall be with Him.

Blessed Théophane Vénard

TWELFTH

When God wishes to sanctify a soul, He separates it from the world by trials, and persecutions . . . He sends it infirmities, disease, interior trials which detach it and purify it from self love as tempests purify the atmosphere.

Père Eymard

THIRTEENTH

Nothing can happen but that which God pleaseth; and what that is, though it should seem evil to us, it is truly the best.

Blessed Thomas More

FOURTEENTH

Jesus offers you a Cross, a very heavy cross and you are fearful lest you should weaken under it. Why? Did not our Beloved fall three times on the road to Calvary? Why should we not imitate our Heavenly Spouse?

Sœur Thérèse

FIFTEENTH

Is any of you sad? Let him pray.

St. James the Great

SIXTEENTH

My God, I unite my sacrifice to that of Jesus Christ, my divine Saviour; I ask in His Name, and through His infinite merits, patience in my trials, and perfect and entire submission to all that comes to me by Thy good pleasure.

Venerable Giuseppe Maria Pignatelli, S.J.

SEVENTEENTH

God's arms are more closely folded round us in interior trials than in the sensible sweetness of His consoling visitations.

Father Faber

EIGHTEENTH

He who is wronged and persecuted would rejoice rather than grieve if he reflected that Our Lord thus gave him an opportunity of acquiring more grace in a single day than perhaps he would in ten years by self chosen labors.

St. Teresa

NINETEENTH

Set thyself then, like a good and faithful servant of Christ, to bear manfully the Cross of thy Lord, crucified for love of thee.

Imitation, B. 2, Chap. XII

TWENTIETH

Fear not therefore . . . any trouble that may come upon you, if trouble be God's will; trouble will but prove the simplicity of your devotion to Him. When our Lord walked on the sea, Peter went out to meet him, and "seeing the wind strong he was afraid." Doubt not that He, who caught the disciple by the hand, will appear to rescue you; doubt not that He who could tread the billows so securely can, self-sustained, bear any weight your weakness throws upon Him, and can be your immovable refuge and home amid the tossing and the tumult of the storm.

Cardinal Newman

TWENTY-FIRST

O good Master! I come to be crucified with Thee . . . and as I cannot see a single portion of Thy body sound, I wish to carry on every side of me the marks of Thy sufferings, that I may one day be clothed with Thy glorious resurrection.

St. Bernard

TWENTY-SECOND

While depriving you of creatures, the Lord wishes that His dear Son should hold the place of all persons and things to you.

Père Olier

TWENTY-THIRD

By how much the more a man dies to himself, by so much more he lives to God.

St. Catherine of Siena

TWENTY-FOURTH

O Jesus! You are my true Friend, my only Friend. You take a part in all my misfortunes, You take them on yourself, You know how to change them into blessings.

Venerable Claude de la Colombière, S.J.

TWENTY-FIFTH

Who is there without a Cross? Happy the souls that know how to appreciate those which Jesus presents to them in order to draw them more closely to Himself.

Father Barelle

TWENTY-SIXTH

He who wishes to keep his love for Jesus Christ ought always to represent Him to himself hanging on the Cross, and dying there for love of us.

St. Bonaventure

TWENTY-SEVENTH

O Lord! O Love divine!
  Once more I follow Thee!
Let me abide so near Thy side
  That I Thy face may see.

I clasp Thy pierced Hand,
  O Thou Who diest for me!
I'll bear Thy Cross through pain and loss,
  So let me cling to Thee.

Father Ryan

TWENTY-EIGHTH

Earthly life is full of sadness; the more the heart is loving and religious the more susceptible it is to inexpressible melancholy; it is an exile on this earth and feels it at each step . . . and it calls with anguish for the Infinite and the Eternal.

Père Didon

TWENTY-NINTH

Tribulations endured for the sake of Jesus Christ ought to be counted among God's greatest blessings.

St. Ignatius

THIRTIETH

Fear not, for He is near Who loves you, Who loves you always and Who loves you most.

Father Kane, S.J.

O C T O B E R

FIRST

ND bearing his own cross, He went forth to that place which is called Calvary, but in Hebrew Golgotha.

John 19 : 17

SECOND

Holy Virgin, have pity on those who loved each other and have been separated. Have pity on loneliness of heart. Have pity on the weakness of our faith. Have pity on those we love. Have pity on those who weep, on those who pray, on those who fear, give to all hope and peace. Amen.

Abbé Perreyve

THIRD

Without struggle we should have no crown. Without sorrow we should have

no sympathy. Without trust in trial we should never have the peace or glory of love that has been proven and is triumphant.

Father Kane, S.J.

FOURTH

Our joy depends upon the Cross, and Our Lord would not enter into His glory save by the way of bitterness. He leads you by the same path as the saints. Do not shrink from it, I beseech you, but be patient, yield to Him, ask Him to follow His will and not yours.

St. Vincent de Paul

FIFTH

A great temporal trial is certainly intended by God to be used by us for a spiritual gain.

Cardinal Vaughan

SIXTH

Good Lord, give me grace in all my fear and agony, to have recourse to that great fear and wonderful agony that Thou, my sweet Saviour, hadst at the

Mount of Olivet before Thy most bitter passion, and in the meditation thereof to conceive ghostly comfort and consolation profitable to my soul.

Blessed Thomas More

(*Prayer after having been condemned to death*)

SEVENTH

We ought to accept illness as a gift from our Creator and God, for it is no less a gift than health.

St. Ignatius

EIGHTH

"Fear not," does He say to the just soul, "it is I, I, who try thee sometimes, it is true, but only to increase thy merit; I who chasten thee often because I love thee; I who in Heaven will be thy reward exceeding great. Fear not, It is I." . . . What could be a more unshaken support, a stronger assurance of safety, amid the dangers by which we are surrounded, the trials to which we are exposed, than this pledge of His love, this promise of His abiding presence among us.

Mgr. de la Bouillérie

NINTH

There is no sign more certain that one is of the number of the elect than, while leading a christian life, to be the subject of sufferings, desolation and trials.

St. Louis Gonzaga

TENTH

Let us follow Jesus Christ carrying His Cross and painfully climbing the mountain of Calvary. Let us accompany Him with Mary, the holy women and Simon the Cyrenean.

Père Eymard

ELEVENTH

Peace here below consists, not in being free from tribulations, but in the acceptation of them.

Fénelon

TWELFTH

How good it is to be with Jesus crucified! I will make three tabernacles here: one in His hands, another in His feet, and a third in the wound of His side where I may watch and repose, read and sleep, pray and do everything.

St. Bonaventure

THIRTEENTH

Oh! I am glad to come to Thee
My only rest,
To lay my weary head awhile
Upon Thy breast,
To bring the burden of my grief
Hither to Thee,
And feel, O Jesus, Son of Man,
Thy sympathy.

Mother M. Loyola

FOURTEENTH

Believe then, O children of the new alliance! that when God sends you afflictions, He wishes to break the bonds which attach you to the world and to recall you to your true country.

Bossuet

FIFTEENTH

It is only the devil and his followers who ought to be sad; we, on the contrary, should always rejoice in the Lord.

St. Francis of Assisi

SIXTEENTH

Let us not speak ill of the Cross, it has been sent to us to warn us, to detach us from the earth, to lead us to our end. Let us leave it only to cast ourselves into God. We have much need of suffering, let us suffer well.

Père de Ravignan

SEVENTEENTH

Truly since God is able and understands how to draw good from evil, for whom will He be disposed to do so, if not for those who give themselves unreservedly to Him.

St. Francis de Sales

EIGHTEENTH

My God, I thank Thee for having given me a glimpse of the sweetness of Thy consolation. I thank Thee for having deprived me of them. All Thou doest is good and just. I bless Thee in my indigence. I desire nothing except that Thy will be done.

General de Sonis

NINETEENTH

What is a Christian if he cannot submit to an affront for Christ's sake? When you are injured, smile at the injuries you receive.

St. Alphonsus Liguori

TWENTIETH

The dead do not come back again. There were figures in the picture once which are missing now. The years rob us as they pass. One by one men and things are missing. God alone is never missing.

Father Faber

TWENTY-FIRST

Never would God permit us to suffer if the mystery of our salvation could have its source elsewhere than in the mystery of our sufferings. Nowhere can the good Shepherd find His lost sheep but in that hedge of thorns which is called trial.

Abbè Henry Bolo

TWENTY-SECOND

I desire, O Lord, to live here always conformed to your Passion, and to find pain and suffering my repose and delight.

St. Catherine of Siena

TWENTY-THIRD

How little worthy of My love thou art!
Whom wilt Thou find to love ignoble thee,
Save Me, save only Me?

Francis Thompson

TWENTY-FOURTH

I rejoice with exceeding great joy in the midst of my tribulations. I am as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as needy, yet enriching many, as having nothing, yet possessing all things.

St. Paul, Romans

TWENTY-FIFTH

We shall probably discover that we owe a heavier debt of gratitude to God for the trials we have endured than for the

comforts we have enjoyed. For how many more are drawn towards Him by sufferings than by consolations!

Cardinal Gibbons

TWENTY-SIXTH

I know a fountain where, after having drunk one still thirsts, but with a very sweet thirst which one can always satisfy; this fountain is the suffering which is known to Jesus only.

Sœur Thérèse

TWENTY-SEVENTH

The real means of obtaining what we need from God is to ask Him, not what we wish for, but what He wishes for us.

St. John of the Cross

TWENTY-EIGHTH

In the Cross is infusion of heavenly sweetness, in the Cross is strength of mind, in the Cross joy of spirit, in the Cross the height of virtue; in the Cross the perfection of sanctity. There is no

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salvation of the soul, nor hope of everlasting life, but in the Cross.

Imitation, B 2, Chap. XII

TWENTY-NINTH

The Son of God has accomplished our salvation by means of sufferings. He would by this teach us that there is no means more proper to glorify God and to sanctify our souls than to suffer.

St. Teresa

THIRTIETH

Mass itself hardly "shows the Lord's death" more clearly than suffering that is received for His sake.

Mgr. Robert Hugh Benson

THIRTY-FIRST

"My Saviour! I cheerfully accept all the painful dispositions in which it is Thy pleasure to place me. My wish is in all things to conform myself to Thy Holy will. Whenever I kiss Thy Cross, it is to show that I submit perfectly to mine.

Blessed Margaret Mary

NOVEMBER

FIRST

IT behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise again from the dead, and so to enter into His glory.

St. Luke 24: 46

SECOND

Let mourners weep and show their grief; let them find consolation in tears: but let them not forget to come, with still greater zeal, to the aid of the departed, by the Holy Sacrifice, by prayer and almsdeeds.

St. Chrysostom

THIRD

Such too is the Christian's slumber under the sign of the Cross, which the world calls death. Ah! look behind the veil, it is not death but slumber. Softly close your eyes: the angels are around

folding their white wings about you and whispering, lullaby. Your Mother is standing there straight in front of you looking at you with her smile so sweet, bidding you sleep. Do you know that gentle hands are on your brow, hands that were pierced by nails, lovingly closing your eyelids? Look up once before you sleep, and at your head, guarding you strongly and well, see your smiling Saviour. Sleep gently, sleep; it is not death but slumber. Oh! the awakening! you are at home! At home forever with Christ and His dear Mother. For ever at home in their sweet home!

Father Kane, S.J.

FOURTH

There are other afflictions which God permits of His goodness, because they preserve those who suffer them from greater misfortunes. Some make their purgatory here, in sickness, poverty and adversity, and thus avoid far greater pains.

Blessed Henry Suso

FIFTH

O good Cross — that from the dear Body of my Lord didst gain becomingness and grace; O well beloved Cross, O long desired, O tenderly cherished Cross. . . . Faithfully I have sought thee. . . . Now at last, made ready for my eager soul, do thou sweet Cross, take me from the midst of men and bring me to my Master that by thee, dear Cross, He may receive me, Who by thee did redeem me.

St. Andrew

SIXTH

Those who die in grace go no further from us than God, and God is very near.

Father Russell, S.J.

SEVENTH

Are you visited by the Cross? Welcome it as a friend; you will find in it a wellspring of spiritual blessings. Are you bent upon winning a soul? Suffer for it.

Venerable Mother Barat

EIGHTH

By our resignation in suffering, we shall so expiate our sins here, that the fire of Purgatory will find little material to feed upon hereafter.

St. Augustine

NINTH

Why shouldst thou fear the beautiful angel, Death
Who waits thee at the portals of the skies. . . .

. . . . . .

He whom thou fearest will, to ease its pain
Lay his cold hand upon thy aching heart:
Will soothe the terrors of thy troubled brain,
And bid the shadow of earth's grief depart.

Adelaide Procter

TENTH

Oh! after a weary life is there still to be another weary waiting for our deliverance and our rest? If we must burn, let it be with the fire of love now, not with the fires of chastisement hereafter.

Father Faber

ELEVENTH

Give me, good Lord, a longing to be with Thee, not for the avoiding of the calamities of this wretched world, nor so much for the avoiding of the pains of purgatory nor the pains of hell either, nor so much for the attaining of the joys of heaven in respect to my own commodity, as even for a very love of Thee.

Blessed Thomas More

TWELFTH

If thou carry the Cross willingly it will carry thee, and bring thee to thy desired end; to wit, to that place where there will be an end of suffering, though here there will be none.

Imitation, B 2, Chap. XII

THIRTEENTH

No, I will not prefer one thing to another, a thousand times no, because that would be my will and I only wish to do God's will. I suffer, I am in tribulations. What do I care? It is God's

will being accomplished in me. I am hurt, crushed, never mind! God wills it, I will it too. I accept, I see but one thing, God's will.

Père de Ravignan

FOURTEENTH

The least pain we may have to suffer in Purgatory is much greater than any pains we can imagine as possible in this world.

St. Anselm

FIFTEENTH

The School of Suffering is the School of Christ and happy they who study in it.

Cardinal Vaughan

SIXTEENTH

For though I should walk in the midst of the shadow of death I will fear no evil for Thou art with me. Thy rod and thy staff have comforted me. Thou hast prepared a table for me against them that afflict me. Thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my chalice which inebriateth me, how goodly it is!

Psalm 22

SEVENTEENTH

It is too great an honor, O King of Glory to drink with Thee the chalice of sorrow; may it never happen to me to refuse this draught, because, O God, says David, it is the beverage of thy beloved.

St. Francis de Sales

EIGHTEENTH

Pray! yes, pray! for God is sweet —
  O my God! woe are we!
When we kneel down at His feet —
  Woe are we! Woe are we!
With our crosses and our cares.
  He will calm the tortured breast,
  He will give the troubled rest —
  And the dead he watchest best.

Father Ryan

NINETEENTH

Let us leave our dear Lord and Master to direct our future; our only business is to strive to correspond with His grace as far as we possibly can.

Blessed Théophane Vénard

TWENTIETH

When we suffer we can make known our pain. But the souls in Purgatory cannot speak. We do not know what they suffer. Let us try to relieve them.

Mother Margaret
of the Most Blessed Sacrament

TWENTY-FIRST

God does us great honor when He is pleased that we should tread the same road which was trodden by His only begotten Son.

St. Paul of the Cross

TWENTY-SECOND

One tear of the heart over the Passion of our blessed Lord! How much fire of purgatory has it the power to quench.

Father Faber

TWENTY-THIRD

Death is the beautiful moment of human life.

Père Lacordaire

TWENTY-FOURTH

Let us, with Purgatory in view, suffer with joy, or at least with patience, all the evils, the misfortunes, and the trials of this life.

St. Augustine

TWENTY-FIFTH

The gate of death, viewed from the supernatural side, is an entrance and not an ending, a beginning and not a close. Death, when he comes, draws not only the survivors closer together, but even those whom he seems to have separated. He does not bring consternation and terror and disunion, but he awakens hope and tenderness, he smooths away old differences, he explains old misunderstandings.

Mgr. Robert Hugh Benson

TWENTY-SIXTH

What a privilege from Jesus! How much He must love us to send us such great grief! . . . Let us be more than resigned, let us embrace the Cross with joy.

Sœur Thérèse

TWENTY-SEVENTH

For death is but a tenderness,
A shadow, that unclouded Love
Hath fashioned in its own excess
Of radiance from above.

Father Tabb

TWENTY-EIGHTH

Indeed, the behavior of this adorable Providence towards those whom it has determined to admit most quickly, after this life, to the possession of eternal happiness is to purify them in this world by so much the greater sufferings and trials.

St. Ignatius

TWENTY-NINTH

Let us conclude then that persons afflicted with scruples are the most favored by divine love and the surest to arrive to heaven.

Blessed Henry Suso

THIRTIETH

Which of the dead have avoided hell? Those and those only, who on earth took up their cross.

Father Faber

DECEMBER

FIRST

N the world ye shall have distress. But have confidence. I have overcome the world."

John 16 : 33

SECOND

Shall we who gave Him that heavy Cross to bear, and kept weighting it after we had given it as if our cruelty were not satisfied, refuse to bear the sweet, grace-giving crosses which He binds on us, so little too, as when we have borne them for awhile we are forced to confess they are.

Father Faber

THIRD

Aim rather at abject and difficult things than at those which are easier and more brilliant. Welcome generously

all manner of sufferings for the love of Jesus Christ and be persuaded that in loving Him thus, one receives ineffable consolations.

St. John of the Cross

FOURTH

My Lord and my Master, Thou didst suffer and suffer far more than this. To Thee suffering was familiar, Thou didst choose it for Thy lot and Thy inheritance and I, I dread and refuse it! By Thy loving acceptance of pain give me the courage to accept all I have to suffer.

Bishop Hedley

FIFTH

Do not lose your time. Do not refuse one fragment of the cross. Go to the place on Calvary where God wills you to be. Pray and ask that God's sovereign will may be accomplished.

Père Didon

SIXTH

And our dim eyes ask a beacon, and our weary feet a guide,
And our hearts of all life's mysteries seek the meaning and the key;

And a cross gleams o'er our pathway —
on it hangs the Crucified
And He answers all our yearnings by the
whisper, "Follow me."

Father Ryan

SEVENTH

Hence I am determined to leave all to Thee, taking no part therein save by keeping myself in peace in Thy arms, desiring nothing except as Thou incitest me to desire, to will, to wish.

St. Jane Frances de Chantal

EIGHTH

Our Lord never asks of us a sacrifice which is above our strength. But sometimes it is true He makes us feel all the bitterness of the Chalice which He presents to our soul.

Sœur Thérèse

NINTH

One "Blessed be God" in the time of adversity is worth more than "I thank you" said a thousand times in prosperity.

St. John of Avila

TENTH

What are those heavy rains of tribulation that fall upon us but the refreshing waters that quicken and revive the seed of faith in our soul, and make it grow into fruit of sanctification.

Cardinal Gibbons

ELEVENTH

When adversity tries us, it enlightens the soul with superior light, it detaches us from earth and rouses us to seek a higher dwelling in Heaven, it takes from us every wish which has not Jesus, and Jesus Crucified, for its object, Whose grace fastens us to the Cross now, that we may afterwards rise with Him.

St. Ignatius

TWELFTH

My God! all that Thou dost will, as Thou dost will, and because Thou dost will it.

Mother Margaret
of the Most Blessed Sacrament

THIRTEENTH

Ah! God tries us only that we may attain perfection and this for the holiest and noblest end that can be conceived, His own honor and glory.

Father de Leben, S.J.

FOURTEENTH

All suffering is bearable when one suffers with Jesus Christ. Suffering! what does it matter? . . . it lasts but a minute.

Curè d'Ars

FIFTEENTH

God wist that it was nothing meet the servant to stand in better condition than his Master. And therefore would He not suffer, that while He came to His own Kingdom not without travail and pain, His servants should be slothful and sit and pick their nails, and be carried up to Heaven at their ease; but biddeth every man that will be His disciple or servant take up his cross upon his back and therewith come and follow Him.

Blessed Thomas More

SIXTEENTH

Be strong to bear, O heart!
Nothing is vain:
Strive not, for life is care,
And God sends pain;
Heaven is above and there
Rest will remain.

Adelaide Procter

SEVENTEENTH

How happy is the soul which says: "Here I am, Lord. Do as it pleases Thee with me and all that is mine."

St. Teresa

EIGHTEENTH

O Jesus, you listen to me with the greatest kindness when I relate my troubles to you, and you have always balm to pour on my wounds. I find You everywhere. You never go away.

Ven. Claude de la Colombière

NINETEENTH

Yet all our peace in this miserable life is rather to be placed in humble suffering than in not feeling adversities. He who

knows how to suffer will enjoy much peace. Such a one is conqueror of himself, and lord of the world, a friend of Christ and heir to Heaven.

Imitation, B 2, Chap. IV

TWENTIETH

Let us commit the success of our efforts to God, and be ready to accept failure if God judges it more suitable to His designs and more profitable to our souls.

Father Ramière, S.J.

TWENTY-FIRST

The Cross engenders no sadness, nay, it gives joy when it is carried with patience and filial submission.

Mgr. Dupont of Tours

TWENTY-SECOND

He bids you take up your cross; therefore accept the daily opportunities which occur of yielding to others, when you need not yield, and of doing unpleasant services, which you might avoid. Learn to master your heart when it would burst forth

into vehemence, or prolong a barren sorrow, or dissolve into an unseasoned tenderness.

Cardinal Newman

TWENTY-THIRD

Lord, increase my sufferings and with them increase Thy love in my heart.

St. Rose of Lima

TWENTY-FOURTH

The soul that loves God burns with the desire to please Him; but as long as its actions cost it but little it feels that it is accomplishing nothing for the Beloved. The loving heart desires to suffer for the Beloved One, and hence the exquisite joy of sacrifice.

Abbè A. Sandreau

TWENTY-FIFTH

Let us therefore live and die with the One who has come to show us the true way to Heaven and let us fear nothing unless it be not to finish our sacrifice on the same altar as He did His.

Fènelon

TWENTY–SIXTH

The humiliations of the Cross are sweet to a soul which is sensible of what she owes to Him Who was crucified for the love of her.

St. Bernard

TWENTY–SEVENTH

Let us place all our trust in Jesus alone, whatever contrary sensible impressions may arise. Relying on this foundation, it is no presumption to feel ourselves stronger than earth and hell; and the greater the confidence, the more it honors Jesus Christ, and the more it desposes His goodness to succor us in all our needs.

Father Surin, S.J.

TWENTY–EIGHTH

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation. Who comforteth us in all our tribualtion, that we also may be able to comfort those who are in any distress by the exhortation wherewith we also are exhorted by God.

St. Paul

TWENTY-NINTH

I do not lean on my own strength, but on the strength of Him Who, on the Cross, has vanquished the powers of hell.

Blessed Théophane Vénard

THIRTIETH

Be assured that we shall obtain more grace and merit in one day by suffering patiently the afflictions which come to us from God or from our neighbor than we could acquire in ten years by mortification and other exercises which are of our own choice.

St. Francis de Sales

THIRTY-FIRST

God will not perish and we are with God. Let the Christ sleep, on the sea, in the storm! Believe! He is the Divine Giver of your life! Trust! He is the Human Lover of your soul. Let the Christ sleep! In His own good time He will arise and bring back to our tempest tossed hearts a great calm.

Father Kane, S.J.

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